(c) whether work on the project has since commenced;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) The project was approved by the Planning Commission on 21.2.1997 for an estimated cost of Rs. 143.32 crore at 1995 price level. Governments of Himachal Pradesh and Punjab have to share Rs. 54.83 crore and Rs. 88.49 crore respectively.

(c) to (e) The work on the project started in the year 1997-98. Different components of the project such as head regulators, canal, fall etc. are in various stages of construction as reported by the Governments of Punjab and Himachal Pradesh.

Clearance of Srisailam Right Bank Canal Pulichintala and Bhima Lift Irrigation Scheme

3194. SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested the Central Government for the investment clearance of Srisailam Right Bank Canal Pulichintala and Bhima Lift Irrigation Scheme;

(b) if so, whether Government is aware of the observation of the Supreme Court with regard to surplus water of the Krishna Basin i.e., the lowest riparian State should not be allowed to proceed ahead with large scale water projects; and

(c) if so, what is the stand of Government with details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (c) The Union Government has given clearance to major/medium irrigation projects in Krishna Basin of Andhra Pradesh which are within the allocation made by Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal to

Andhra Pradesh. Srisailam Right Bank Canal was accorded investment clearance by Planning Commission in 1981. Pulichintala & Bhima Lift Irigation Scheme were accepted by the Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Water Resources in 1996 subject to certain conditions which are yet to be complied with by the Government of Andhra Pradesh. The State Government is therefore, yet to obtain for these two projects the investment clearance from the Planning Commission. Irrigation being a State subject, the concerned State Governments are primarily responsible for planning, funding and execution etc. of all types of irrigation projects/schemes including flood control & drainage from their own resources and as per their own priorities.

Decision taken by National Water Resources Council

†3195. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the meeting of the National Water Resources Council was held in May, 2001;

(b) if so, the main issue undertaken for consideration and decision in the meeting;

(c) whether any final decision was taken on this main issue after consideration; and

(d) if so, the details of the decision?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (d) The last 4th meeting of National Water Resources Council was held on 7th July, 2000 under the Chairmanship of the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India. The deliberations established a consensus among the States on most of the important issues contained in the proposed draft updated National Water Policy and proposed draft National

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.